

Thomas Randall House
434 North Calhoun Street
Tallahassee
Leon County
Florida

HABS No. FLA-160

HABS

FLA

37-TALA

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

THOMAS RANDALL HOUSE

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Location: 434 North Calhoun Street (lot 89), Tallahassee,
Leon County, Florida

Present Owner: Mrs. George Lewis II, Lewis State Bank, Tallahassee,
Florida

Present Occupants: Mrs. Hilmar Skagfield Studio
Miss Patty Gillim Dance School
Lester Bruch Studio
Children's Home Society
Ed Davis, Studio and Apartment
J.P. Mitchell Studio and Apartment
Mrs. Ruth Yost, Real Estate

Present Use: Business and Residence

Brief Statement
of Significance: This structure was built about 1830 for Thomas Randall,
one of Florida's federal judges. George Proctor, a
free Negro from the West Indies, was the builder. The
city's first bathtub with plumbing, powered by a wind-
mill, was installed here in 1880.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Thomas Randall, c. 1830
George Lewis, 1873
C.B. Collins, 1886
C. Charles Ashenhart
Moose Lodge
Mrs. Elise Duvall
Mrs. George Lewis II
2. Date of erection: about 1830
3. Architect, builder: Architect unknown. Probably built
by George Proctor, who also built Governor Bloxham House
(Tallahassee Garden Club), 507 North Calhoun Street.
4. Notes on alterations and additions: Originally had small,
flat, roof porch with two square columns and pilasters of
exposed brick. Stairs to back porch, first floor, removed.
Dormers added. Miscellaneous interior changes. Window
openings north and south walls, modified. Back porch:
first floor, enclosed.
5. Important old views: Photograph (1880) in possession of
owner.
6. Sources of information: Mrs. George Lewis, II.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: A one-and-a-half-story brick structure, end walls extend above gable roof line with web walls between chimneys. Excellent stairway.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Approximately 50' x 50' (including back porch; not including front porch). Faces east. One-and-a-half stories on sloping lot with ground level basement at rear.
2. Foundations: Brick bearing walls; foundations of original porch remain.
3. Wall construction: Brick bearing wall, covered with stucco, rusticated to resemble War masonry. Chimneys joined by parapeted web walls at gable ends.
4. Chimneys: Four chimneys, two flues each.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Front doorway (east) has side (one light) lights and transom (three lights, two etched); two seven panel doors.
 - b. Windows: Tripartite front windows with double hung sash, two over two light on sides; six over six light center windows with their muntins and masonry sills. Casements: two sash, six or eight lights. Some basement windows are six over three light double hung.
6. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof, composition shingle.
 - b. Cornice: Brick cornice on east elevation, metal gutters and downspouts.
 - c. Dormers: Two false (modern) dormers, east elevation, with paired six over six light double hung windows. Dormer on west elevation at stair landing to half floor.

C. Technical Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. Ground floor: Two rooms flank each side of stair hall, right rear room was originally the kitchen.
 - b. First floor: Central entrance and stair hall, flanked by three rooms left side, one room right side.
 - c. Second floor: Stair hall flanked by two rooms, closet.
2. Stairway: U-shaped stairway, left hand winders, two turned balusters per tread, turned newels, open string with decorated string board.
 3. Flooring: 6" pine; wood strips; marble tile stair hall, ground floor; concrete ground floor.
 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, concentric decoration at first floor stair hall ceiling; plaster soffit of stairway, plaster cornice.
 5. Doorways and doors: Two-panel wood doors, molded pilaster trim with corner blocks, six-panel sliding doors (2) left rooms, first floor. Grooved reveal in door jamba.
 6. Trim: Exceptional Teak wood Victorian mantelpiece, first floor left; cast iron and wood mantelpieces, first and ground floors. Under-window panels.
 7. Hardware: Modern
 8. Lighting: Modern electric
 9. Heating: Modern steam heat, radiators.
- D. Site: Faces east on street, masonry retaining walls; round brick cistern.

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